



Welcome TechBits!

The Ames Office of the Center Chief Technologist (CCT) is pleased to welcome you to the debut issue of TechBits - Ames' Monthly Technology News Flash! The purpose of this monthly news memo is to keep you abreast of near-term opportunities for technology development, inform you of recent technology awards, and provide an ongoing timeline of technology-related events coming up within the next six months. TechBits does not replace the semi-annual TechBytes newsletter, which is released each winter and summer, and provides more in-depth coverage of cutting edge technologies, and the people bringing those technologies to life at the Center. We encourage you to pass along this issue to your colleagues. An electronic version of TechBits, and the semi-annual TechBytes newsletter can be found at: <http://www.nasa.gov/centers/ames/cct/>

2020 NASA Technology Taxonomy

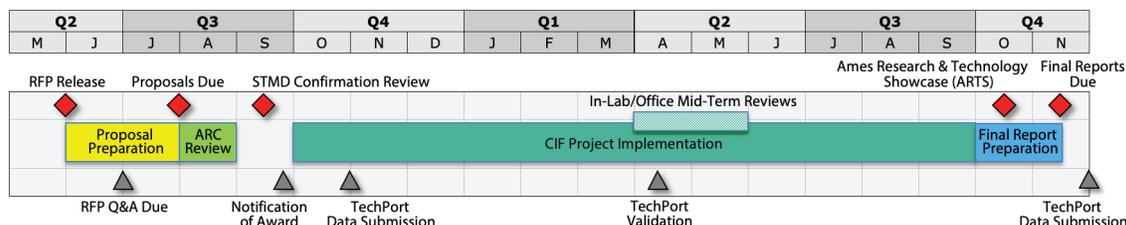
The updated 2020 NASA Technology Taxonomy, or technology "dictionary", takes a more technology discipline based approach that also realigns like-technologies no matter their application within the NASA mission portfolio. This tool is meant to serve as a common technology discipline-based communication tool across the agency and with its partners in other government agencies, academia, industry, and across the world. In order to ensure the Taxonomy is of the highest quality and fully covers the wide breadth of NASA technologies OCT. This new taxonomy supersedes the Technology Roadmaps. For mor information visit <https://www.nasa.gov/offices/oct/taxonomy/index.html>.



2020 NASA Technology Taxonomy poster. Image Credit: NASA

2021 Center Innovation Fund (CIF) Timeline

The Ames Center Innovation Fund (CIF) is a yearly STMD program whose primary purpose is to stimulate and encourage creativity, innovation, and collaboration within Ames and between Ames and other NASA centers in addressing the technology needs of NASA and the nation. CIF focuses on technology investments that are long-term, high-impact, often higher-risk, but not necessarily tied to any specific mission opportunity. The Ames CIF Program is managed by the Office of the Center Chief Technologist, which has established a CIF Program timeline of major milestones, deadlines and reviews. This year the Request for Proposals (RFP) is expect to be released in early- to mid-June, with proposals due late July. The official start date of successful projects is October 1 each year, but funding is often dispersed in the latter part of each calendar year, as available. Final reports summarizing project achievements are due toward the end of the project lifecycle and presented to the Center at the Ames Research & Technology Showcase (ARTS) each Fall. If you would like more information on the timing of the CIF Program, please contact Jill Bauman (jill.bauman@nasa.gov).



Current CIF timeline. Image Credit: Jill Bauman

ARC FY20 NASA APPEL-KS SCHEDULE

Please note: Civil servants have priority. Resident contractors admitted on a space available basis. Logging into SATERN may be required. Once you register for a course, your request must pass through several levels of approval beginning with your immediate supervisor (or contract task manager for contractors). Please follow up with your supervisor to ensure they have approved your request in SATERN. [Click here](#) to view the Registration Overview.

■ COURSE:

SCHEDULING AND COST CONTROL WHEN: APRIL 13-16, 2020

REGISTRATION OPENED: Mon., 1/20/20

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Mon., 3/30/20

■ COURSE:

APPEL-COMMUNICATING TECHNICAL ISSUES WHEN: MAY 19-20, 2020

REGISTRATION OPENED: Mon., 1/20/20

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Tues., 10/5/20

■ COURSE:

PRESENTATION SKILLS FOR TECHNICAL PROFESSIONALS WHEN: JULY 30, 2020

REGISTRATION OPENS: Mon., 4/20/19

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Thurs., 7/16/20

▶ **STMD's Prizes and Challenges Program is offering at least \$400,000 to help you solve your toughest problems.**

Our "Crowdsourcing Contenders" campaign will select up to 5 proposals across NASA to use our extensive crowdsourcing services.

Public prize competitions have served NASA needs for more than 15 years by tapping into the external "crowd" to offer new perspectives and sources of expertise. Through such competitions, NASA scientists and engineers have found algorithms to improve the detection of potentially hazardous asteroids, created applications to monitor the nutritional intake of astronauts, and made advances toward minimizing aviation fuel needs.

Now it's your turn to launch a prize competition to find solutions outside of NASA that will help to address the agency's needs! Tell us about a performance improvement that will benefit NASA and why you think a public prize competition could make a difference. We will fund and work with proposers of the most promising concepts to launch public challenges to find viable solutions.

PROPOSE YOUR IDEA HERE. We've extended the deadline by a few days to March 13, so there is still time to send in proposals and spread the word in your organizations.